



\$1 million funding to develop diabetic kidney disease biomarkers into a companion diagnostic test

August 21, 2012 Perth, Australia. **Commercialisation Australia has awarded Proteomics International with \$1 million grant to develop its discovered biomarkers for diabetic kidney disease.**

Diabetic kidney disease is a severe complication of diabetes that kills around 28 – 56 million people per year worldwide. The work that Proteomics International will now undergo should result in the production of a more sensitive and effective molecular test to better predict kidney disease and monitor its progression in those patients with diabetes. Biomarkers are biological signatures that indicate the state of health or disease.

The currently available microalbumin test for this disease is limited in its usefulness in early diagnosis and in monitoring the progression. Dr Richard Lipscombe, Managing Director of Proteomics International, commented, "Early detection is the key to managing this disease. Importantly, a companion diagnostic test that is being developed with these biomarkers may help to produce new personalised medicines, and in a shorter time frame. This could deliver optimal therapy for certain groups of patients and identify those patients where medicine would be less effective or cause side effects. The opportunity to boost health outcomes on a large scale for the many sufferers of diabetes drives our enthusiasm."

Proteomics International will use the funding to undertake analysis of additional patient groups to further validate its biomarkers as a pre-cursor to out-licensing its intellectual property.

About Proteomics International Pty Ltd

Proteomics International is both a *drug discovery company and contract research service provider*, focused on sophisticated analysis for the biological research market. Proteomics International combines the most advanced high throughput mass spectrometry instrumentation (MALDI TOF-TOF and LC-MS/MS) and a team of qualified scientists with proven expertise in protein and peptide chemistry. **Proteomics International is the only company globally to achieve laboratory accreditation to International Standard ISO/IEC 17025:2005 for provision of proteomics services.** The accreditation is a widely used benchmark for US Federal testing facilities and strengthens the company's licensing position to deliver drug development data that is of the highest scientific integrity. The company has two focal research activities: new peptide drugs from venoms, and the discovery and use of biomarkers; both analyses build upon its proprietary transformative *Bioven* process. Initial research that resulted in the discovery of 13 diabetic nephropathy biomarkers was conducted as part of the Centre for Food and Genomic Medicine (CFGM), an initiative of the WA Institute for Medical Research. The company is at the leading edge of protein analysis with several of its publications achieving best in class levels of sensitivity (<http://www.proteomics.com.au/publications.aspx>). Skills developed from these research programs are incorporated into the sophisticated suite of specialist contract research techniques provided to clients. High quality, quick and affordable protein identification, analytical and characterization services are routinely provided. Proteomics International is based in Perth, Western Australia and has established itself as an industry leader in the delivery of contract research and lead molecule discovery in the Asia Pacific region.

For more information contact

Mr Barry Epstein
Vice President Marketing
Telephone +61 8 9389 1992
Facsimile +61 8 9389 1981
Email barry@proteomics.com.au
Website www.proteomics.com.au